

Ershad offers early elections

DHAKA (AP) — President Hussain Muhammad Ershad offered Saturday to hold early elections in a nationwide speech a day after he declared a state of emergency to quell growing anti-government unrest. "My government has no objection to arrange a new election earlier than the schedule if we all unitedly agree to it," General Ershad said, speaking in Bengali over state-run radio and television. Gen. Ershad did not specify what the elections would be for, but broadly hinted that they would elect a new parliament. "If the people vote for a change of the government, I will not hesitate to happily hand over power to the victorious party," Gen. Ershad said. "If the people give a mandate for changing the form of government, (the opposition can) come and amend the constitution in the parliament." The offer came the day after Gen. Ershad imposed a state of emergency, deploying riot police and paramilitary forces throughout the capital as another anti-government strike loomed. (See page 8). Gen. Ershad also defended his decision to impose the state of emergency.

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King sends good wishes to Yugoslavia

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein sent a cable of good wishes on Saturday to Yugoslav resident Lazar Mojsor congratulating him on the occasion of his country's Independence Day. In his cable, the King wished the Yugoslav leader continuing good health and the Yugoslav people further progress and prosperity.

Cabinet approves 88 draft budget

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet on Saturday approved the government's draft budget for 1988. During a session chaired by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, the Cabinet decided to send the draft to Parliament for approval. The Cabinet also approved an Arab agreement for trade arbitration.

Princess Basma attends Cairo meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, chairwoman of the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund, attended the opening session on Saturday of the Arab Council for Childhood Development board of trustees. Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd bin Zaid attended the opening session. The council's president, Prince Talal Ibn Abdul Aziz, expressed hope that the council would reach decisions aimed at approving and raising the standard of services offered to Arab children everywhere. Among the topics to be discussed is the council's working plan for the next year. The council comprises 34 prominent Arab figures. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan is the honorary president of the council which was founded in Amman on April 12, 1987.

Aramco donates \$111,000 to W. Bank and Gaza

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Duhin received a cheque for \$111,000 on Saturday from the representative of the Arab American Oil Company (Aramco) in Amman, Jamal Sarayreh, as contribution from the company to a number of charitable societies and institutions in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Lebanese guerrillas said to have Stingers

SHARJAH (R) — Pro-Iranian guerrillas in South Lebanon have obtained U.S.-made Stinger missiles from Afghan rebels, a newspaper reported on Saturday. Al Khaleej daily said the guerrillas purchased a number of the shoulder-fired, heat-seeking anti-aircraft missiles. "A Lebanese resistance group in South Lebanon used its ties with Iran to buy Stingers from the Afghan rebels," it quoted sources close to the guerrillas as saying.

Zambia rules out ties with Israel

RIVADH (R) — Zambian leader Kenneth Kaunda said his country would not recognise Israel. In an interview published on Saturday with the Saudi newspaper Okaz, he said there was no difference between Israel and the racist regime of South Africa. He said Zambia did not want relations with Israel as long as it refused to pull out of the occupied Arab territories.

Two Kuwaitis tried for subversion

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's state security court on Saturday adjourned verdicts on two youths being tried on charges of subversion. Abdul Aziz Abbas Al Shati, 18, and Haidar Abdullah Al Nakhi, 17, both Kuwaitis, were charged with membership of an illegal group seeking to overthrow the state by force and insulting the emir in a public place by circulating subversive leaflets. Nakhi was still at large, the court was told. After hearing the charges, the court went into closed session and later adjourned verdicts until Dec. 5.

Senate voices total satisfaction with results of Amman summit and praises His Majesty

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Upper House of Parliament (Senate) on Saturday expressed appreciation, pride and support for His Majesty King Hussein's efforts at unifying Arab ranks and his role in making the Nov. 8-11 extraordinary Arab summit in Amman a resounding success.

In a cable they sent to King Hussein on Saturday, the senators said His Majesty's firm belief in the principles of the Great Arab Revolt was the basis for calling the summit to convene and for his follow-up efforts to achieve pan-Arab reconciliation and solidarity.

The cable was sent to the King immediately after the Senate met in its first ordinary session following the summit's conclusion less than three weeks ago. Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi sent a cable congratulating the King on the

results of the Amman summit on Nov. 13.

The cable was called for by the Senate members after they listened to 10 speeches by senators on the summit's results and resolutions. The speeches hailed the nationalistic and historic role played by King Hussein in the summit and congratulated the Arab leaders for making the conference a resounding success.

Senators also paid tribute for the efforts of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, who was head of Jordan's delegation to the

summit, and to Prime Minister Zaid Rifai.

"The results of the Arab summit of accord and harmony will remain a landmark in the march towards realising pan-Arab solidarity and joint work," said the Senate in its cable to the King.

General satisfaction, enthusiasm and jubilation among senators over the summit's success was evident in their speeches which covered wide-ranging topics related to the summit, including Jordan's pre-summit preparations, Arab unity achieved at the meeting and the firm resolutions adopted by the Arab leaders regarding the Iran-Iraq war and the situation in the Gulf, the Middle East problem, the situation in war-torn Lebanon and relations between Arab countries and Egypt.

The atmosphere of enthusiasm over the summit's outcome as displayed in Saturday's Senate

(Continued on page 3)

Tension remains high in Lebanon amid reports of Israeli build-up

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Tension

remained high in South Lebanon for the third day on Saturday amid a full alert among Palestinian fighters, and civilians spent a second day in shelter in anticipation of Israeli retaliation for Wednesday's daring Palestinian commando attack that killed six Israeli soldiers and wounded seven others.

Reports reaching here from the south indicated that Israel could possibly launch a sweeping incursion into South Lebanon villages suspected of helping Palestinian and Lebanese fighters mounting resistance attacks against Israeli soldiers as well as the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA). The SLA and more than 1,000 regular Israeli soldiers patrol an area designated by Israel as a "security zone" in South Lebanon as a buffer against guerrilla attacks across the border.

Palestinian fighters kept a constant vigil over the skies with their anti-aircraft guns on the ready for possible Israeli air raids. Israeli jets flew several sorties over the area but beyond range of the guns on Friday and early Saturday in what was seen

as reconnaissance missions.

Syrian Television said over 2,000 Israeli soldiers backed by tanks and helicopter gunships were massed in the "security zone" preparing for a massive operation against resistance fighters in the area.

The television also read out what it said was a message sent to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad by the commando who mounted Wednesday's suicide attack on an Israeli military camp just across the Lebanese-Israeli border in a motorised hang-glider.

The commando, whom the television identified as Mohammad Akar, said in the message, said to have been written before Wednesday, that he was going on the suicide mission with the firm belief that military struggle was the only means to liberate Palestine.

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In Damascus, the Syrian-backed Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC), led by Ahmad Jibril, claimed responsibility for the attack. It was the first in

which airborne guerrillas caused casualties in Israel.

Mr. Shamir, a right-winger, hinted that Israel might retaliate telling Israeli Television's Arabic news on Friday night:

"Israel will address all... attacks on her citizens, her soldiers and her territory."

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U.N. committee condemns Iran's human rights abuses

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — A key U.N. committee has expressed grave concern over widespread reports of human-rights abuses, torture and mass executions in Iran.

It was the third consecutive year that the Committee on Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Affairs had expressed such concerns and urged Iran to respect human rights. The committee's resolution will be considered later by the U.N. General Assembly.

The committee adopted the measure by a vote of 88-22 with 42 abstentions. Last year's vote was 53-37 with 42 abstentions.

The vote was hailed by Iranian dissidents opposed to the government of the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and by the Bahai International Community whose members have been persecuted in Iran.

"The decisive condemnation of the Khomeini regime demonstrates that the world will not tolerate Khomeini's Hitler-like fascism," said Ali Safavi, press spokesman for the People's Mujahedin of Iran in Washington.

"Throughout the international community, Khomeini's name is synonymous with repression, torture and belligerence," he said in a telephone statement.

The solution to both the Iran-Iraq war and murder in Iran, he said, is overthrow of the

Khomeini government.

Paul Ojermark, Bahai representative at the United Nations, called the vote a great comfort to the Bahai of Iran.

"International support is the only means of security for 300,000 Bahai in Iran," he said. "Resolutions like this tell the Iranian government it cannot abuse its Bahai citizens with impunity."

Iranian dissidents told a U.N. news conference Wednesday that at least 70,000 people have been executed in Iran this year, compared with 50,000 in 1986. They said 47,000 people have been arrested this year on political charges and that 140,000 political prisoners are in jail.

A dissident who escaped from five years in prison claimed he was tortured and said fanatic guards drained the blood of one cellmate, amputated the toes of another and gouged out the eyes of doomed men.

The resolution expressed deep concern about numerous and detailed allegations of grave human-rights violations, including torture, arbitrary and illegal arrest and detention, denial of fair trial and denial of freedom of thought.

Qadhafi: No peace until aid to Chad is stopped

PARIS (R) — Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Qadhafi has warned there could be no lasting peace in Chad until France and the United States stopped aiding the central African country.

Col. Qadhafi, speaking in a live television interview from Tripoli, denied reports that his troops were preparing a new offensive against the Chadian government of President Hissene Habre.

Chad, which earlier this year ended Libyan occupation of its northern desert region, said on Tuesday it had clashed with Libyan forces trying to re-enter Chadian territory from Sudan.

It was the first reported skirmish since Chad and Libya agreed to a ceasefire on Sept. 11 and followed Chadian statements of new fighting.

"Libya is now inside its own international frontiers and wants a complete end to this war between brothers," said Col. Qadhafi, whose troops still control a disputed border region known as the Aouzou Strip.

"Without the departure of the French and Americans there can be no national reconciliation, there can be no peace," Col. Qadhafi added.

France has more than 1,000 troops stationed in its former central African colony while the United States has provided arms and other military equipment to Mr. Habre's government.

Mr. Habre has claimed Libya

has formed a 6,000-man Arab mercenary force to carry out a war against Chad and all of Africa, according to a published report Friday.

Mr. Habre, in an interview in the Ivorian weekly Ivoire Dimanche, said the force already was occupying bases in Sudan and Niger.

He said the force was made up of Druze militiamen from Lebanon, Palestinians from various PLO factions, Syrians, pilots from Algeria and mercenaries from both North and South Yemen.

"We have informed... African leaders of the Libyan aggression undertaken by a fundamentally racist and expansionist political philosophy," Mr. Habre said.

"We appreciate the increasing awareness in Africa of the Chad-Libya war which is in the process of taking on other dimensions with the racial overtones certain Arab countries and Qadhafi want to give it," he said.

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Mr. Habre said Libya was operating a military base with a 3,000-metre airstrip in neighbouring Niger which threatened Chadian and Nigerian security.

He said the base was manned by Druze, Palestinian and Syrian mercenaries.

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Home news

Queen tours health facilities in Maan

AAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor on Saturday visited Maan government hospital, where she inspected its facilities and met with patients to hear their views about the hospital's services.

Accompanied by Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh, the Queen met with the director of health department in Maan Governorate and the director and staff of the hospital to hear their views on the conditions of the hospital and the efforts they are making to improve the quality of services. Dr. Hamzeh spoke about the general health conditions in Maan Governorate and the services offered by the ministry through its local health centres.

Arab transport ministers end talks in Tunis

UNIS (Petra) — The third meeting of the Council of Arab Ministers of Transport ended on Saturday with a decision to hold the council's next session in 1988.

Minister of Transport Ahmad Dakhqan, who represented Jordan at the meeting, said that the council decided that all facilities of Arab seaports and airports will be provided for Iraq's use without extra charge, in order to help in the war effort against Iran. The council called for safeguarding freedom of international shipping in the Gulf waterways.

Jordan, Iraq to boost border cooperation

AFAQ (J.T.) — An Iraqi delegation on Saturday wound up a four-day visit to Jordan by signing a statement that the Iraqi team's visit to Jordan was designed to enhance bilateral cooperation, mainly with regard to border issues.

Mafraq Governor Fayed Abbasi signed for Jordan, while Iman Ghidan, governor of Ibar in Iraq, signed for his unit at a ceremony held at the Ibar governor's house, attended by senior police officers and the commander of the Ibar border police force. The protocol, signed in 1984, provides for continued consultations by officials from both sides to bolster cooperation in dealing with common border issues.

Haj Hassan opens national data centre

MMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Hamed Al Haj Hassan on Saturday opened a national data centre for providing information on the economic and social development of Jordan. The centre has four computers at its disposal to the private and public sectors and will be coordinating its work with a similar centre at the Ministry of Planning and another at the Department of Statistics, according to the

Hindawi reviews new education plans in Tafileh

AFILEH (Petra) — The Ministry of Education is currently reassessing the educational process in the country, paying particular attention to improvement in teaching conditions. Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi said on Saturday.

Speaking at a meeting for educational departments and teachers in the Tafileh region, Mr. Hindawi also said that his ministry is currently planning to set up technical centres at a number of schools around the country, offering practical training courses to complement the

theoretical courses offered at schools.

The minister said that ministry officials are also revising plans for allowing schools to organise trips, with the purpose of giving children opportunities to visit tourist sites and industrial and economic projects in the country.

Mr. Hindawi toured Hasa and Jurf Al Dararawi, where he met with officials and discussed educational problems. In Tafileh itself, the minister opened a new vocational school, built at a cost of JD 1.5 million.

Jordan, Spain to discuss parliamentary relations

MMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian parliamentary delegation will be on an official visit to Spain on Tuesday. The delegation will be received by King Juan Carlos and members of the Spanish senate, according to an official announcement on Saturday.

Marriott boosts tourism again

MMAN — The Amman Marriott Hotel, in coordination with the Tourism and Travel Bureau, is helping to promote tourism in Jordan.

The first group of Canadian

Symposium addresses increasingly dangerous problem of road accidents

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-day symposium on the prevention of road accidents opened here on Saturday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Interior Minister Rajai Dajani, who deputised for Prince Hassan at the meeting, welcomed the participants and said that Jordan hoped the symposium would come up with resolutions and proposals for measures to reduce the number of road accidents in the Kingdom.

"Road accidents have become an increasingly dangerous phenomenon, threatening human lives and causing severe damage to economic and social development," the minister said.

Statistics on road accidents show that they are responsible for the largest number of deaths, far exceeding the number of victims of natural disasters and wars, Mr. Dajani pointed out.

He said that in one Arab country, the number of accidents during the past year totalled 20,000, including 4,200 deaths and 25,600 injuries.

Mr. Dajani added that these accidents are estimated to cost JD 45 million in economic losses.

Zuhair Malhas, president of the Jordanian Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents (JSRA), also addressed the opening session and outlined the society's efforts, in cooperation with the Public Security Department (PSD), to reduce road accidents in the Kingdom.

Dr. Malhas said that this symposium is the first of its kind because it covers road accidents in the Arab World in general and will focus attention on ways to end the carnage on the roads throughout the Arab World.

Acting PSD Director Major General Sami Al Saket made a speech in which he noted that Jordan has suffered for years as a result of road problems and the growing number of accidents.

"We are encouraged that this symposium is being held in Jordan following a successful Arab summit meeting during which the Arab leaders agreed on bolstering their countries' cooperation in all fields, including cooperation in safeguarding human lives by stemming the dangers on the roads," Maj.-Gen. Saket said.

He added that the PSD has made serious efforts and introduced numerous measures for tightening control over the roads, in addition to contributing to legislation and regulations aimed at reducing road accidents.

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The paper by Dr. Sharif and Dr. Ahmad Al Faqih of the University of Jordan and Major Tawfiq Al Juneidi from the PSD also called for the information media to provide guidance to the public on these matters.

A second paper on traffic rules was presented by Dr. Mahmoud Al Bustan from Kuwait University. The paper reviewed the effect of traffic on the lives of individuals and societies, with particular attention to school children who are most vulnerable to road accidents.

A third paper by the mufti (religious judge) in Jordan touched on Islamic ethics in relation to road accidents.

In the second working session of this symposium held at the Royal Cultural Centre, the participants discussed a working paper dealing with Jordan's experiments on road engineering. The paper tackled the construction and maintenance of roads in the Kingdom, as well as the efforts of the Ministry of Public Works, the Greater Amman Municipality, the Ministry of Interior and the PSD towards reducing road accidents.

The paper recommended that a higher council on safety on the roads be established to deal directly with all parties and organisations dealing with road problems.

The participants also discussed a paper on road signs by Dr. Mohammad Shaker from the ministry of transport in Egypt, another on technical specifications of roads by Dr. Fathi Judeh from Egypt and a third by Dr. Mohammad Aqrabi from Iraq, dealing with energy consumption and road accidents.

The working papers which will be discussed by the officials and scholars in this seminar will focus on the nature of this fruitful relationship," Dr. Majali said.

He said that Jordan also hopes for continued dialogue aimed at expanding its present cooperation with the European Economic Community (EEC) countries in all fields.

Addressing the opening session of a seminar on Jordan's economic integration and cooperation with the EEC on behalf of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Dr. Majali said that the seminar coincides with the 10th anniversary of a Jordanian-EEC agreement on economic and social cooperation.

"The working papers which will be discussed by the officials and scholars in this seminar will focus on the nature of this fruitful relationship," Dr. Majali said.

He said that Jordan, under the guidance and leadership of His Majesty King Hussein, has been extending a hand of friendship and respect to the rest of the world and seeking cooperation in economic and social development.

"Jordan — a small country poor in natural resources and confronting enormous military and political challenges — through this wise policy has advanced greatly and has become a

Jordan and EEC begin in-depth review of all aspects of cooperation

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan looks to Europe as a partner in the process of development and as an ideal example of a party willing to cooperate with the Kingdom towards the goal of achieving the country's economic and social objectives. University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali said here on Saturday.

He said the working papers to be discussed at the meetings would reflect the experiences of countries in other parts of the world and would help to fuse ideas and information presented by scholars and scientists.

President of Yarmouk University Mohammad Hamdan also spoke at the session, saying that the seminar was designed to focus the light on Jordan-EEC economic and trade relations with a view to further promoting these ties and developing cooperation in energy, finance and politics. He pointed, in particular, to developing political cooperation with regard to the occupied Arab territories, where Jordan is seeking to implement social and economic development projects.

"Jordan, though poor in resources, is open to modern development and is bound to the Arab World while maintaining strong ties with Europe — a situation which serves the interests of all parties," Dr. Hamdan said.

He called on the EEC countries to reduce the trade tariffs and restrictions on Jordan's exports to their markets, thereby promoting Jordan's European exports.

The opening session was attended by Dr. Jawad Al Anani, president of the Royal Scientific Society, which is sponsoring the meeting, senior government officials and EEC officials in Jordan. The seminar is being held at the Ministry of Higher Education.

British parliamentary team briefed on Palestine

AMMAN (Petra) — A team from the British House of Commons met here on Saturday with Dr. Ahmad Qatanani, under-secretary of the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs, who spoke about the development of the Palestine problem and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The team, which represents the British Liberal Party, heard Dr. Qatanani reiterate Jordan's call for an international conference under United Nations auspices and with the participation of all concerned parties, in addition to the permanent Security Council members.

Dr. Qatanani spoke about Israel's human rights violations in

the occupied Arab territories and its construction of settlements on Arab-owned land.

He also briefed the delegation on the Jordanian government's assistance to the people of the occupied Arab territories through the economic and social development programme designed to enhance the steadfastness of the Arab population in the face of Israel's repressive measures designed to force the Arabs to abandon their homeland.

He said Jordan was providing assistance to the Palestinian refugees in cooperation with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).

The British parliamentary delegation later met with Nabih Al Nimer the Foreign Ministry's secretary general and discussed similar subjects, particularly Jordan's efforts for convening an international conference to achieve peace in the Middle East.

Mr. Nimer briefed the visitors on the outcome of the Amman Arab summit, and the current efforts being made to end the Gulf conflict through the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 398.

The delegation members expressed their understanding of the region's problems and paid tribute to His Majesty King Hussein for his efforts in seeking peace in the region.

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Syria played key role in hostage release

(Continued from page 1) appearing Saturday afternoon that the payment of a ransom contributed to the conclusion of the negotiations with the kidnappers. It furnished no other details.

Mr. Chirac, in a brief speech at the airport before the arrival of the two former hostages, formally denied that any ransom was paid and called the report a "deceitful allegation with no basis."

A militia source in Beirut told Reuters a ransom was paid for the release but could not say how much. Other sources could not confirm that money had changed hands.

Paris has repeatedly said it is opposed to bargaining over kidnap victims, effectively ruling out payment of ransom.

Iran keeps silent about its

backing for the Revolutionary Justice Organisation and other radical groups in Lebanon, whose anti-Western rhetoric mirrors Tehran's.

Before freeing the two, Revolutionary Justice Organisation said it had received assurances that France would meet demands for changes in its Middle East policy and end support for Iraq in its seven-year war with Iran.

Iran has repeatedly denied any direct links to the abductors of foreigners in Lebanon, but it did say it could influence some of the radical hostage-takers.

Syria has repeatedly spoken of its own role in freeing Lebanon hostages, saying it had a hand in the release of at least 16 in the past two years and was ready to help free others.

Unlike the Syrians, Iranian

officials in Lebanon are never seen publicly to be involved with hostage cases.

But security sources and diplomats quoted by Reuter said they believed kidnappers only set their captives free after obtaining Iranian blessing.

"Iran is the master and the gunmen here only carry out orders," one source said.

The diplomats said they suspected a link between the release of Mr. Normandin and Mr. Aquino and efforts by Iran and France to improve relations.

Paris and Tehran cut diplomatic ties in July this year after Vahid Gordji, an interpreter at the Iranian embassy in Paris, refused to face questioning over allegations that he was involved in a series of bombings in Paris in 1986.

Jordan Times

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MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

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Faximile: 661242

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Myth of invincibility shattered

THE spectacular and courageous glider raid on an Israeli army camp last Wednesday proves that Israeli defences are not impregnable, no matter how sophisticated they are. It also proves that the cycle of violence in the Middle East will not abate as long as the Arab-Israeli conflict remains unresolved. Another striking aspect of this latest daring attack on an Israeli military establishment is the fact that it was carried out by a multi-national Arab team composed of Palestinians, Syrians, Lebanese, and Tunisians. Perhaps there is a message here which purports to say to the Israelis and the world at large that the Arab political solidarity achieved at the Amman extraordinary Arab summit can also be expressed in armed struggle against Israeli occupation of Arab territories.

There is no doubt that Israel will now upgrade its defences to account for security problems and threats posed by gliders and other devices intended to penetrate Israeli borders. It will surely retaliate and kill many innocent civilians. But as soon as Israel accomplishes these tasks, the Arab fighters will, in due course, devise yet more daring and ingenious methods to prove Israel's vulnerability and to make it pay for its retaliation. The moral of the story is that Israel is not invincible. One does not have to be a military strategist to comprehend that no country, no matter how sophisticated its defences, can remain forever invulnerable. Only months ago, a lone West German pilot flew undetected right into the heart of the Soviet Union. All of the billions that the Soviets had spent to prevent such penetrations could not make even its capital impregnable. If a superpower cannot make itself impenetrable, surely Israel will remain vulnerable to innovative ventures to cross its borders. It is not long before the age of rocketry and sophisticated missiles dawns heavily on the countries of the Middle East. What Israel can do to stop short and medium-range rockets from penetrating its borders remains to be seen. But one thing is sure: Some of these missiles will escape detection and hit their targets, no matter what.

Should Israeli policy-makers and military strategists truly wish to make their country invincible, there is only one way to do this: they must have peace with their neighbours — both governments and peoples — on the basis of justice and respect for national rights. The endless cycle of violence has become the virtual "natural law" in the Middle East since the creation of Israel in our midst. This cycle will surely continue unabated as long as a solution to the Palestinian problem is not achieved. Instead of continually spending all of its time and money on security concerns and beefing up its defences, Israel would be better advised to give greater attention to searching for a just and durable peace with its neighbours.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Proper denunciation

THE night of terror which was created within an Israeli military camp by an Arab resistance fighter should remind the world that the Arabs have more to give than statements of denunciation or condemnation of Israel's actions. This night of terror would be considered as an example of resistance action in all respects. One Arab was killed for six Israeli soldiers and the injury of eight others. If resistance activity is conducted in this manner, inflicting heavy casualties in the ranks of the enemy, the Israeli leaders would be forced to re-examine their plans and their calculations, and would take speedy steps for the solution of the Palestine problem. For the Arabs, this heroic action on the part of the resistance should serve as a prelude for a new dawn; and they should therefore be ready for any Israeli retaliatory action directed against Syria or any other Arab country. It should be noted that the Arab defence pact had been formed to involve all Arab countries in any act of defence of the Arab land in the face of foreign aggression; and therefore, the Arabs should act firmly and should make sure that the Palestinian camps in Lebanon would not remain alone facing the retaliation of the Israeli enemy. Nor should Syria be left alone in the face of aggression. The Arab countries possess vast potentials and should supply the Palestinians and the Lebanese with the necessary means for defending themselves against enemy attacks. The Arabs have masses of arms and ammunition and should therefore send some of them to Lebanon for carrying out resistance activity. The Arabs also have diplomatic ties with other nations and they ought to exploit these relations to explain their position and should ask the U.N. Security Council to issue warnings to Israel against any terrorist activity on the Arabs. Any statements of condemnation on the part of the Arabs in reply to any Israeli terrorist action would not have any meaning. Condemnation of Israel's actions is not a proper reply to aggression.

Al Dustour: Heroic action

THE Israelis were stunned by the heroic action of the resistance men in the northern parts of occupied Palestine, and they have sent out cries demanding retaliation against the Arabs. Amidst this atmosphere, the Israeli leaders are working out plans for a new aggression which could possibly take the form of raids on Palestinian camps inside Lebanon. There is no doubt that Israel's retaliation would be dangerous and wide ranging, reflecting the ill-nature of Zionism which believes in revenge. This reaction would serve as a futile attempt to erase the consequences of the Arab resistance attack which caused so much frustration within the Israeli society and drew feelings of pride within the Arab society. Israel's coming retaliatory action as expected by observers and reported in the news would only lead to a deepening of the hatred and an escalation of the conflict in the Middle East, and would invite counter revenge on the part of the Arabs similar in style to and with the same deadly effect of the resistance action carried out by the lone attacker. Regardless of the form and the volume of Israel's coming revenge, and no matter how barbarous Israel's behaviour might be, the objective of giving a lesson to Israel has been achieved. Israel should realise that what happened Wednesday night in its military camp could happen once again, and that resistance activity would be repeated until it ends its occupation of Arab land and stops its oppression against the Arab population under its rule. The resistance action carried out by a lone attacker on Israel proves once again that the Arab Nation did not and will not kneel before Israel and would never capitulate.

Why the Soviets eye the Gulf

By Mark Bruzonsky and Stephen Green

NUMEROUS U.S. newspaper editorials have pointed to the Reagan administration's well-known fear of the Soviet "evil empire" as a reason for the increasing Americanisation of the war in the Gulf. Others find in the new energetic leadership of Mikhail Gorbachev an explanation for the growing Soviet involvement in the Middle East which has, in turn, aroused greater U.S. involvement in the region. Indeed, the unmistakable signs of new Soviet interest in the region are very clear. The Kremlin seems suddenly eager to play a mediating role in both the Iran-Iraq war and in the broader Arab-Israeli conflict (MEI 312). In the latter instance, Moscow has even taken the first steps in more than 20 years to re-establish diplomatic relations with Israel in order to facilitate such a role. And in the Gulf, it was of course an offer by the Soviets to lease three tankers to Kuwait that led to Reagan's hasty offer of American reflagging in the first place.

Diplomacy and showing the flag, though, are only one aspect of the new Soviet presence. Another is the ballistic missiles, advanced fighter bombers and multiple launch rockets which have arrived in Syria since 1983. For the first time in the military history of the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Soviets have supplied at least one Arab army with offensive weapons that begin to offset the overwhelming offensive power given without cost to Israel by America.

The question is why is the USSR moving to expand its influence in the Middle East and most particularly in the Gulf? Is it, as the White House keeps suggesting, even while plans for the Washington summit proceed, a matter of evil Communist designs upon the governments and countries of the region? Or is it something far more basic and easy to understand such as a desire for

The question is why is the USSR moving to expand its influence in the Middle East.

trade with the Gulf — in other words plain, legitimate self-interest? The key element in this question of Soviet motivations that has been uniformly missed by American editorial writers, and perhaps by the White House as well, is quite simple: The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, by far the world's largest oil producer, is slowly running out of oil.

Like Western Europe, Japan and the United States, the USSR will soon need to import substantial amounts of fuel to meet its energy requirements, and those of its allies. And like those other buyers, the Soviets are looking to the Gulf as the source for that fuel. The Soviet offer to lease tankers to Kuwait may thus have been primarily motivated by a desire to habituate the countries of the region to the sight of the hammer and sickle on the back end of oil tankers, for there may be hundreds and hundreds more to come.

The first significant signs of Soviet oil reserve depletion began in

1976, when the rate of gain in oil production declined below six per cent for the first time in over a decade. Western observers, primarily the CIA, noticed the decline immediately, and in the first of two very controversial reports, the CIA characterised Soviet goals for oil production levels into the 1980s as "optimistic."

Several months later, the Moscow newspaper *Socialist Industry*

appeared to confirm the CIA's projections when it revealed that four of the 12 top Soviet oil producing areas were not meeting

their production targets, and that in fact eight of the 12 were barely

maintaining output or were

already in decline. Western energy analysts, quoted in the re-

spected *Oil and Gas Journal*,

concluded that "like the U.S., it

seems the Soviet Union has found

most of the 'easy oil'."

While production of natural gas in the

Soviet Union would continue to

rise in future years, oil produc-

tion would begin to decline in the

early 1980s, resulting in a reduc-

tion of oil exports and the badly

needed foreign exchange these

bring to the Soviet economy.

In the following year, 1977, the

CIA produced an even more pes-

simistic report on Soviet oil pro-

duction, projecting that in the

1980s the Soviet Union would

become a "substantial" importer

of oil. Other Western experts,

though, noted that the CIA re-

ports failed to take into consid-

eration the predictable Soviet

programmes aimed at energy

conservation and development of

alternative energy sources in

reaching their conclusions. And

indeed, Soviet oil production

levels — and exports — in the later 1970s and early 1980s made the CIA's projections seem premature, if not alarmist. Then came 1984, and new shortfalls. Most discouraging of all, the 1984 production decline appeared to be occurring in the youngest and most vital region for Soviet development — the giant fields in Tuymen in western Siberia.

A controversy arose within the Kremlin in 1984, putting the Soviet oil ministry against the ministry of geology and senior Communist Party officials.

The oil ministry, contending that the vast majority of western Siberia's future oil discoveries would be small and uneconomical to ex-

ploit, and pointing to rapidly in-

creasing costs for oil extraction in recent years, argued strongly for a formal reduction in Soviet oil production goals. When the final production figures were in for 1984, the oil ministry was proved right. The Soviet Union had suffered its first absolute production decline in 40 years. The result was a major push by the Kremlin to make oil production in western Siberia more efficient. Said the Moscow newspaper *Investigat-*

"Tyumen's oil surplus has dis-

appeared and the wells no longer

flow without assistance. We

must now 'work' the deposits in

the full sense of the word." The

The full significance of this develop-

ment can be understood when

one considers that western Siberia

accounts for two-thirds of the

total Soviet oil flow.

Meeting in Moscow in early

1986, the USSR's 27th Communi-

st Party congress agreed to for-

mal reduction of the country's oil

production targets for 1990. The

oil ministry — and the CIA re-

port ten years earlier — had been

vindicated. Then, just a few

months later, the Chernobyl

catastrophe starkly demonstrated

to the Kremlin the hidden costs

and dangers of nuclear energy

offensive and defensive arms which, with few exceptions, they have been unwilling to send to the Middle East in the past. Furthermore, these developments are occurring at a time when, a) the governments of the region are facing military and political threat from Iran and are desperately seeking the modern defensive arms with which to defend themselves, and, b) given the unreserved commitment of the Reagan administration and the American Congress to Israel, the U.S. government is predictably going to refuse to be the supplier of those arms.

Where does Washington think the Gulf states are going to turn for their arms? Whether the Americans like it or not, the Soviet Union and the Gulf States have a new, strong, growing consonance of interests. It is mutual. It is natural. And as we shall soon see — cultural and political differences notwithstanding — the outcome will be a dramatically increased Soviet presence in the Gulf.

Oil for arms may become the formula for a basic strategic realignment with historic consequences — Middle East International, London.

Mark Bruzonsky is the author of *Security in the Middle East* (Westview Press, October 1987).

Stephen Green is the author of *Taking Sides: America's secret relations with a militant Israel* (William Morrow, USA; Faber and Faber, U.K., 1984). His forthcoming book is *Living by the Sword* (Amana Press USA; Faber and Faber U.K.).

Iran arms embargo to dominate superpower summit

By Stephen Jukes

Reuter

BAHRAIN — When President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev flip their summit agenda to the section marked Gulf war, one question will dominate debate — can Moscow be persuaded to drop its objections to an Iranian arms embargo and wound 82.

The latest raid sparked calls for revenge from right-wing politicians and the public, and fears of retaliation among Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Parliamentarian Meir Cohen-Avidov of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud Bloc urged Rabin "order army commanders to enact the toughest policy to halt all terrorist activities, and not to take legal action against soldiers and civilians who try to defend themselves" — an apparent reference to Israeli vigilante attacks.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin told reporters after an inner cabinet meeting that the gliders were spotted by Israeli front-line forces in Lebanon and an investigation was under way into how the fighter was able to enter an army base and cause so many casualties. "Something we cannot accept as possible."

Chief of staff Dan Shomron sought to play down suggestions of a blunder.

"This action was truly characteristic of a suicide attack. With small aircraft, it is hard to identify them at night. Such actions have failed in the past," he said after touring the area.

Military sources said the gliders were detected by at least three military units in the eight km (five mile) wide border buffer zone but Cobra helicopter gunships scrambled to intercept them failed to make contact.

"It was a flashah," one source said, using an Arabic word for a foul-up that has passed into Israeli slang.

The hours of confusion that followed the 10-minute gunbattle dented the Israeli security forces' reputation for efficiency.

A foreign volunteer worker at a kibbutz (collective farm) miles away was shot and wounded accidentally by para-military border police who mistook him for a Palestinian fighter.

Rabin said the "security zone" Israel established in Lebanon had greatly reduced cross-border attacks. The zone was set up in 1985 when Israel withdrew most of the occupation forces that invaded three years earlier to drive out Palestinian fighters.

The Israeli army says it has killed 200 fighters in the zone in the last year, while losing only half a dozen of its own men. Casualties among the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia, which patrols the zone, have been higher.

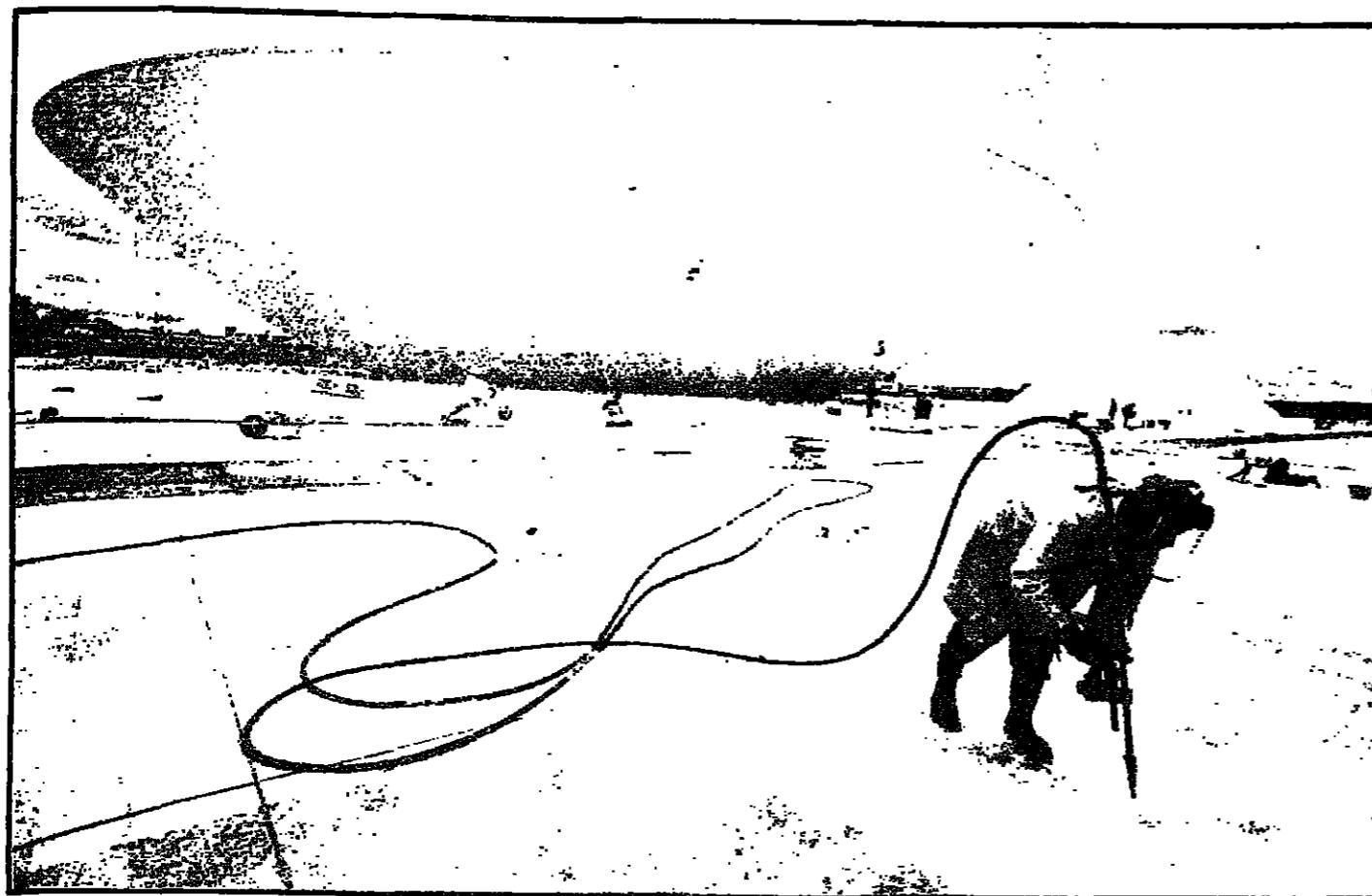
The Israeli army says it has

members of the U.N. Security Council. Britain backs the U.S. drive for an arms embargo, while France and China — since its public declaration it will not sell Silkworm missiles to Iran — are also expected to agree.

But Moscow has consistently argued that U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has not exhausted possibilities for negotiation between Iran and Iraq. He is due to meet an Iranian emissary in New York this week.

Superpower rivalry in the Gulf took a new twist early this year when Moscow sealed a deal with Kuwait to lease its three tankers to carry the emirate's oil under Soviet naval protection.

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Workmen refurbish the marble terrace outside the capitol complex in Brasilia, capital city of Brazil. The South American nation moved its seat of government to the newly created city deep in Brazil's interior from Rio de Janeiro not long after construction began in 1957. Now

neighboring Argentina plans to follow suit, with Viedma, a small city in lightly populated Patagonia, as the capital to replace overpopulated Buenos Aires.

Moving seat of government not always a capital idea

By Boris Weintraub
National Geographic

WASHINGTON — Over the next few years, if everything goes according to plan, Argentina will begin to move its capital from Buenos Aires to the virtually unknown city of Viedma. Then, if history is any guide, a number of things will happen:

— There will be significant cost overruns and lengthy delays in construction.

— Government officials, foreign embassies, cultural institutions, and ordinary citizens will resist the move, protesting that the new capital is too far away from anything that makes life worth living.

— The government will move anyway, and critics will then complain that the new capital, the result of careful planning, is too sterile and artificial.

— After 50 or 100 years, everyone will accept Viedma as the capital and point to it with pride as a national symbol. No one will remember what all the fuss was about.

Nations create new capitals for many reasons: Independence, as in the case of the United States; compromise, which is why Australia's capital is Canberra, not Sydney or Melbourne; a desire to open vacant land for settlement, as Brazil did in building Brasilia; a leader's wish to modernize his nation, which is why Peter the Great built St. Petersburg, now Leningrad; and even the need to avoid hurricanes, the reason British Honduras, now Belize, built Belmopan.

Argentine President Raúl Alfonsín started his nation April

15, 1986, with a speech designating Viedma and its sister city across the Rio Negro, Carmen de Patagones, as the new capital. Their combined population is about 50,000, far from the 10.7 million — a third of the nation's population — who live in the Buenos Aires metropolitan area.

It wasn't the idea of moving the capital that was so startling. Such a move had been considered since the 19th century, and there is general agreement that Buenos Aires plays far too dominant a role in Argentine life.

But few expected Alfonsín to choose a site in Patagonia, which has a fourth of the nation's land but only 3 percent of its population.

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But few expected Alfonsín to choose a site in Patagonia, which has a fourth of the nation's land but only 3 percent of its population.

Construction continued even through the years of military rule that followed. Despite protests about the sterility of the central city and the emergence of slum-like satellite cities, the Federal District was chosen in 1911, but not until 1929 did it replace Calcutta as the seat of government.

Canberra, whose isolated site

153 miles from Sydney was selected in 1912 — was called "the world's best-lighted sheep station" — took 15 years to become Australia's capital. A permanent home for its parliament is only now being built.

Capital-creation is a serious act. The Pakistani commission that in 1960 chose the site for what became Islamabad used typically high-flown language to explain itself:

"It is the opinion of all the Eastern States that the climate of the Potomac is not only unhealthy, but destructive to northern constitutions. Vast numbers of eastern adventurers have gone to the Southern States, and all have found their graves there."

Alfonsín's speech encouraged Argentines to look for guidance of West Germany's selection of the sleepy university town of Bonn as a capital, rather than to

neighboring Brazil's establishment of the new, central capital of Brasilia.

Like Argentina, Brazil had long talked of building an inland capital. The country's first constitution, adopted after independence in 1822, called for one.

But Rio de Janeiro remained the capital until Juscelino Kubitschek, campaigning for the presidency in 1956, pledged to build the new city. A plan was developed for a site 578 miles northwest of Rio. Construction began in 1957, and by the time Kubitschek's successor was inaugurated in 1960, its population was 100,000.

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Hattie destroyed three-quarters of the old capital of Belize City in 1961, killing more than 260 people. British Honduras built the new city of Belmopan 40 miles inland. The government moved in 1970, and Belmopan today has about 5,000 residents.

British authorities also were responsible for building New Delhi and making it the capital of their Indian empire, choosing a site that had been home to eight previous capitals over 3,000 years. True to form, the site was chosen in 1911, but not until 1929 did it replace Calcutta as the seat of government.

Canberra, whose isolated site

153 miles from Sydney was selected in 1912 — was called "the world's best-lighted sheep station" — took 15 years to become Australia's capital. A permanent home for its parliament is only now being built.

Capital-creation is a serious act. The Pakistani commission that in 1960 chose the site for what became Islamabad used typically high-flown language to explain itself:

"It is the opinion of all the Eastern States that the climate of the Potomac is not only unhealthy, but destructive to northern constitutions. Vast numbers of eastern adventurers have gone to the Southern States, and all have found their graves there."

Alfonsín's speech encouraged Argentines to look for guidance of West Germany's selection of the sleepy university town of Bonn as a capital, rather than to

Britons follow royal family into alternative cures

By John Parker
Reuter

LONDON — The attractive young woman led the way into a white room.

"Take your shoes and socks off and lie down," she said, closing the blinds. "Now, just relax."

Then she turned on music that sounded like a waterfall, rubbed powder into her hands and began to massage my feet.

This is reflexology, a so-called "alternative" medical treatment. Scorned by most doctors, alternative medicine is nonetheless growing and becoming more respectable in Britain.

Even Prince Charles, the heir to the throne, has said he uses alternative medicine and both Queen Elizabeth and her mother favour some aspects. More and more Britons are sidestepping the National Health Service (NHS) to give it a try.

Reflexologists believe organs of the body are mirrored in the feet, and diseases in those organs can be found and cured by foot massage.

"I can tell your liver is not too healthy," said the reflexologist, Karen Benson, pressing a tender spot on a toe.

Benson works at the new Westminster Natural Health Centre, a hospital-clean converted house in an expensive area of London offering about 15 of the more common alternative treatments.

Nobody knows exactly how many alternative treatments are available in Britain today. There are few controls, so there may be as many treatments as there are beliefs about the workings of the human body. They range from the quasi-medical to the seeming indecisiveness.

Prince Charles argues that alternative medicine is good because it is holistic — that is, it tries to treat the whole body. Practitioners give patients more time than doctors do, and patients are encouraged to help themselves to better health.

"By concentrating on smaller and smaller fragments of the body, modern medicine perhaps loses sight of the patient as a whole being," Prince Charles told doctors in 1982.

Since then alternative medicine has grown quickly. A 1986 survey of 28,000 people by the consumer magazine *Which?* found that one in seven had consulted an alternative practitioner in the previous 12 months. Of those who had done so, 82 per cent said they were cured or improved.

In 1983, opening an alternative medicine centre for cancer sufferers in Bristol, England, Prince Charles said alternative medicine is "representing an invisible aspect of the universe."

"It nevertheless cries out for us to keep our minds as open as possible and not to dismiss it as mere hocus pocus," he said.

For some people, however, the ideas behind the remedies can take some getting used to.

Followers of the Bach Flower Remedies, for instance, believe certain flower petals give off healing vibrations that can help cure negative mental states such as indecisiveness.

Iridology, begun a century ago in Hungary, is based on the belief that diseases can be seen in the eyes. Faith healers believe the mind can cure diseases of the body.

Traditional acupuncturists, followers of the ancient Chinese art of sticking needles into people, believe the body's organs have humours, or moods, which respond to stimulation.

Osteopaths and chiropractors claim to cure disease through manipulation, chiefly of the spine. Homeopaths believe a small quantity of a substance that would cause similar symptoms can cure a disease. The list goes on.

These treatments are not usually available on the NHS, and the only insurance policy available covers only a few of the more respectable treatments.

There are no standard prices, but alternative treatments are usually cheaper than private conventional medicine because they use no modern drugs or surgery.

Following Prince Charles's criticisms of the British Medical Association, the Doctors' Union, set

up a working group.

It reported in 1986 that only osteopathy, chiropractic and some forms of acupuncture had any scientific basis, and even they were "unscientific" in approach. Most alternative treatments were useless, and occasionally dangerous, quackery.

The report said problems in the NHS, such as long waiting lists, had partly caused the drift to alternatives. But the most important cause was a change in patients' attitudes.

"People expect instant cures and when they don't get them they go looking elsewhere," professor James Payne, the chairman of the working group, told *Reuters*.

He said the medical profession would not accept alternative cures until they could be proved, scientifically, to work.

But alternative practitioners ask, how can you measure how a person feels or the link between body and mind?

Joanna Solan, the ex-nurse

who began the Westminster Centre, said the medical profession had also, at least partly, missed the point.

"It doesn't matter if patients go out and chew grass and feel better, so long as they feel better."

"Anything that alleviates symptoms on a long-term basis, I don't think can be called quackery."

The heart of the sex difference

By Gina Kolata

even in the absence of high cholesterol levels. This is not true of men.

The most obvious difference is that women tend to develop coronary heart disease far later in life than men. Heart disease becomes the No. 1 killer of women in their mid-60s, but is the No. 1 killer of men at the age of 39. That disparity points to the long-assumed protection offered to premenopausal women by their hormones.

Scientists now believe it may be too simplistic to expect the hormone estrogen alone to explain differences in heart disease.

Dr. Antonio Gotto, of the Baylor College of Medicine, in Houston believes there are cellular and biochemical differences in female blood vessels. "I feel confident that female blood vessels have some inherent protection," Dr. Gotto said. He speculated that female blood vessels may be better able to repair early damage from high blood pressure, for example, preventing the development of artery-clogging plaques.

Women have different symptoms of heart disease than men. Women often have pains on and off for a long time before they have a heart attack; in men, chest pains are more often a sign that a heart attack has begun.

Women who have a heart attack are twice as likely as men to die within 60 days.

Diabetes seems to eliminate the protection accorded women in their earlier years, whereas it seems to have less effect on men.

Contributing to the sense of mystery is the finding that women do only half as well as men in bypass surgery. Although a relatively simple reason is suggested — women have smaller hearts, more difficult to operate on, and they tend to come into the operation older and sicker than men do — not everyone is convinced that this is the whole story.

The aim of the heart researchers is not just to improve the prevention and treatment of heart disease in older women but to learn what protects younger women from heart disease, and perhaps to use the knowledge to help men.

Dr. William Castelli, director of a long-range heart study in Framingham, Massachusetts, bemoaned the lack of attention being given to heart disease in women.

women. "Their signs and symptoms are not being taken seriously because of the myth that women don't get heart attacks," he said.

The Framingham study is a major source of data on women and heart disease because it follows both men and women throughout their lives, correlating such factors as blood chemistry and lifestyle with the incidence of heart disease. Two similar federally funded studies, in Tecumseh, Michigan, and Evans County, Georgia, and a study in Rancho Bernardo, near San Diego, are among the first to have been firmly established.

"It is very attractive to think that female sex hormones are good for you and male sex hormones are bad for you, but, in point of fact, the data are mixed," said Dr. Elizabeth Barrett-Conner of the University of California at San Diego. "Most of us don't believe it anymore."

In support of estrogen's purported beneficial effects are several reports indicating that women who take estrogen supplements after menopause are less likely to have heart attacks. In men, according to Dr. Castelli, triglycerides do not predict heart disease risk independently of other factors, such as blood cholesterol.

"Triglyceride," Dr. Castelli said, "is the chemical name for what most of us think of as fat. Corn oil is pure triglyceride." He explained that triglycerides in the blood are converted by the body to low-density lipoproteins, or LDL, which carry cholesterol to the blood vessels, and may contribute to artery-blocking plaques in other ways, too. He said he did not know why triglycerides should be so much more dangerous in women than in men, and added that the importance of triglycerides levels is usually overlooked in women.

Framingham and Evans County data indicate women are at particular risk of heart disease if they have high levels of triglycerides in their blood, said Dr. Millie Higgins, of the heart institute. In men, according to Dr. Castelli, triglycerides do not predict heart disease risk independently of other factors, such as blood cholesterol.

The heart institute will soon begin a study of female hormones and heart disease. The study will involve about 1,000 post-menopausal women who will take various combinations of estrogen and another female sex hormone, progesterone.

One hypothesis is that estrogen protects against heart disease by increasing the concentrations of the beneficial HDLs and decreasing the concentrations of harmful LDLs. But there is a trade-off, said Dr. Basil Rifkind, of the heart institute. Estrogen also increases the tendency of blood to clot, which in itself can increase the chances of a heart attack.

In the late 1960s, the heart institute studied the use of estrogen supplements in men and concluded not only that the men were not protected against heart disease but that they may have had an even higher death rate from blood clots when they took the female hormone — The New York Times.

Panic buttons are a growth industry in South Africa

By Arik Bachar

JOHANNESBURG — More and more households in affluent whites-only suburbs of Johannesburg are enlisting private security firms to guard against a crime wave which has stretched police to the limit.

With police already busy keeping the lid on a anti-apartheid violence, the private security industry is mushrooming and many homes in Johannesburg are being connected to "panic systems" and displaying signs warning criminals to stay away.

"The high wall syndrome is a new thing in South Africa," said John Sewell, marketing manager of a security firm with 700 subscribers in Johannesburg. "The security business is one of the top growth industries at present."

The most popular security device is the panic button — in fact several buttons installed throughout the house which, when pressed, summon an armed patrol.

Industry experts say intensified crime in recent years, chronicled by newspapers in daily accounts of murders, rapes and robberies which often cut across race lines, has boosted demand for their services.

For a monthly fee, most security companies promise that a reaction unit of two armed men will respond to a panic call within five minutes of the button being pressed.

Sewell, who said at least 7,000 panic systems have been installed in Johannesburg, said most panic calls come from women alone at home. Each subscriber on average presses a button once every three months and his men have

made a handful of arrests.

Many in the dominant and wealthy white minority live in single-family houses set in large gardens. Guard dogs are common and gun ownership is prevalent.

Political violence over the past three years has been blamed partly in South Africa's worst post-war recession and Sewell said black township unrest, which has claimed over 2,500 lives since 1984, has given the industry a fillip.

Suburbs around Johannesburg's Alexandra township, an island of black poverty in the midst of opulent white neighbourhoods, were the first to seek extra protection when the township erupted in violence last year.

Sewell said the industry's turnover was expected to top 120 million rand (\$60 million) in 1988, compared with 25 million rand (\$12.5 million) five years ago.

Lora retains WBC bantamweight crown

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (R) — Unbeaten World Boxing Council (WBC) bantamweight champion Miguel "Happy" Lora, successfully defended his title for the sixth time with a unanimous 12-round decision over Ray Minus on Friday night.

Lora, who raised his record to 28 wins, put Minus on the canvas with a straight right hand in the sixth round and controlled the fight from then on.

Antonio Marino of Venezuela scored the fight 118-110 in favour of Lora. Anselino Escobedo of Mexico scored it 120-115 and Tony Castellano of Las Vegas had it 117-110.

Lora, a native of Monteria, Colombia, who now fights out of Miami, won the title in August 1985 from Mexican Daniel Zaragoza. Minus, the Bahamian and

right hands and won the following two rounds.

The sixth round knockdown of Minus put Lora back in control.

"I was happy with my performance but not the decision," said the 21-year-old Minus of Nassau. "I think I was the master boxer. I knew I had to score with two times as many punches against the champion."

"What Ray didn't realise is that I'm a lot different in the ring than I am sparring in the gym," the 26-year-old champion said. "I tell you, this fight was harder than the rest of my title fights. Not because he hurt me, but because his style made me uncomfortable."

Lora controlled the bout through the first three rounds, then Minus began to score with

"And I think I did. I don't think one knockdown should win a fight for a man."

The loss dropped Minus' record to 22-4-1.

As for the victory, Lora sees it as the springboard to a bout to unify a bantamweight title with WBA champion Wilfredo Vazquez, whom Lora has previously beaten.

Liverpool delivers Venables their 1st crash

LONDON (R) — Liverpool dashed Terry Venables' hopes of a victorious return to English soccer when they beat his 10-man Tottenham team 2-0 on Saturday to move five points clear of Arsenal at the top of the First Division.

Midfielder Steve McMahon made the decisive breakthrough in a high-speed game when he scored after 62 minutes. Craig Johnston added a second 10 minutes from time.

The result left Tottenham's

biggest crowd of the season, 47,500, with little to celebrate apart from the unexpected defeat of their north London rivals Arsenal who were beaten 2-0 at Watford.

But Arsenal stayed second behind Liverpool, who have a game in hand, thanks to the failures of all the challengers in the chasing pack.

Third-placed Queen's Park Rangers were beaten 3-1 at struggling Sheffield Wednesday, fourth-placed Nottingham

Forest's fixture against Luton was postponed because of fog. Everton drew 0-0 at home with Oxford and Chelsea were held to a 1-1 draw by Wimbledon.

Tottenham, under Venables' control for the first time since he was appointed as David Pleat's successor in the manager's office, were reduced to 10 men when England midfielder Steve Hodge was sent off in the 17th minute.

Hodge was dismissed by referee Ian Barrett for elbowing Irish International midfielder Ray Houghton in the face.

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Economy

OAPEC seeks increased cooperation with EEC

KUWAIT (AP) — Oil ministers of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) on Saturday advised the OAPEC chief to pursue contacts with the European Economic Community (EEC) to "upgrade technical cooperation."

Without elaborating, a statement at the conclusion of the bi-annual meeting of the 10-nation group urged this cooperation "in a manner serving interests of member states of the two blocs."

OAPEC groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Iraq, Syria, Algeria, Libya and Tunisia.

The five first countries are members of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) alliance which is seeking a trade accord with the EEC that would facilitate entry of Gulf petrochemical products into European markets.

Earlier, a conference source said that the OAPEC oil ministers were expected to appraise the prospects of cooperation between the organisation and the EEC following "the encouraging attitude by EEC foreign ministers who decided last week in Brussels that the situation is politically ripe for concluding an agreement with the GCC countries."

Current OAPEC chief is Abdul Aziz Al Wattari of Iraq, the assistant secretary-general who was named acting secretary-general following the resignation last September of Ali Atiqa.

The final statement at the conclusion of OAPEC's one-day meeting requested Mr. Wattari to continue performing the task but stopped short of confirming him in the post that Mr. Atiqa had.

The statement expressed gratitude to Mr. Atiqa who resigned after the organisation decided at its earlier conference this year to cut the budget.

The meeting endorsed a budget of about 1.5 million Kuwaiti dinars (\$5.3 million), as compared to an earlier budget of 2.3 million dinars (\$8 million).

The ministers appealed to member states to settle overdue arrears.

There was no reference to the reinstatement of Egypt as 11th member of OAPEC.

The meeting had begun as Iraq reiterated its demand for a petroleum production quota equal to Iran's.

The Iraqis said they would push this demand when the larger Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) gathers in Vienna on Dec. 9.

Swiss reject Yamani bid to boost stake in watch firm

GENEVA (AP) — A bid by former Saudi oil minister, Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, to gain a controlling stake in a Geneva maker of prestige watches has been rejected, local authorities said Friday.

Sheikh Yamani had been negotiating with the Swiss city's authorities for about a year to increase his reported minority share in Vacheron et Constantin watchmakers. Founded in 1755, the company is said to be worth more than 5 million Swiss francs (\$3.6 million).

Geneva's department of public economy turned down Sheikh Yamani's plan because of laws limiting the amount of land foreigners can buy in Switzerland. More than a third of the company's assets are in real estate, department official, Mr. Robert Hensler, said.

A foreign company specialising in watches might have been granted a waiver, he added.

Mr. Jacques Kettner, majority shareholder in Vacheron et Constantin, said last year that Sheikh Yamani had bought a minority stake.

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1987

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The conditions which have been surrounding you will, in a way, hold you back. You will be changing rather rapidly, so be prepared for this. You will have less tendency to delay your actions than usual.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Handling out-of-town matters should be your first priority, but don't neglect other duties. Your judgement is particularly fine.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Find a quiet place where you can think and decide on what is really important to you. Listen to the advice of a trusted older.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Trust in your friends to give you the support you need. Enjoy a happy family dinner tonight and feel content.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) This is a good day to gain the support of your superiors on a new project. Take the time to handle a public duty like.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get out early and meet some new people who can assist you greatly in the future. Plan out the details of an upcoming trip tonight.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Now is the time to get your home in order and make all necessary repairs. You'll find a way to create money with your mate.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A talented companion can show you some shortcuts which will make your job much easier. Settle a dispute with a good friend.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Step back and consider your financial situation; you may see there is an easy way to improve it. Get plenty of rest this evening.

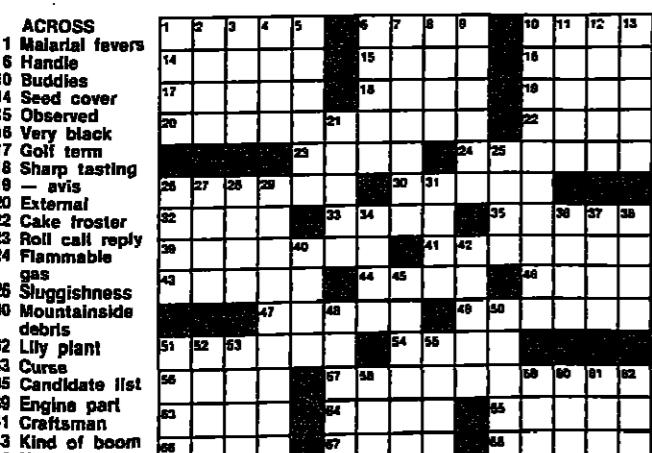
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Your perception is excellent right now, but don't rely on your first impressions completely. Let your mate know what you want.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Trust in your friends to give you the support you need. Enjoy a happy family dinner tonight and feel content.

MOON CHILDREN (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) This is a wonderful time for you socially. Use your charm to calm down an angry friend. Be sure you drive with the utmost care.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get the backing of an important superior for a new project. Be alert to situations which are developing around you this evening.

THE Daily Crossword by Harvey L. Chew



South African Jumbo crashes with 159 on board

JOHANNESBURG (R) — A South African Boeing 747 was lost over the Indian Ocean on a flight from Taiwan on Saturday. President P.W. Botha said it apparently went down in the sea and the fate of 159 people aboard was unknown.

The last word of the aircraft was a radio message from the pilot as it approached the island of Mauritius, saying there was smoke in the cockpit.

Planes and ships from Mauritius, France's Indian Ocean island of Réunion and a U.S. missile base on Diego Garcia launched a big search operation.

At one point on Saturday morning, the crew of a French Transair military plane spotted what they thought was wreckage from the Boeing, but officials on Réunion said it turned out to be something else.

The authorities on Réunion said the search for any trace of the aircraft was still going on and "it appears that the aircraft crashed into the sea."

In Cape Town, President Botha issued a statement of his government's concern and promised relatives of those aboard that they would be informed as soon as anything was known.

The plane was flying from Taipei to Mauritius and Johannesburg with 140 passengers and 19 crew, according to a South African Airways spokesman.

He declined to give the

nationalities of the people on the plane.

Japanese diplomatic sources said between 42 and 49 of the passengers were Japanese, most of them seamen on their way to Cape Town where they were to join fishing trawlers.

The Japanese passengers also included a martial arts fighter known as the "great kabuki," who was due to fight in a wrestling match in Durban Saturday evening.

One of the passengers' relatives at Jan Smuts Airport, Sherry Chen, who had come to meet her Taiwanese father and seven-year-old daughter who were on the plane, broke down when she heard the aircraft was missing.

She said she had phoned earlier and had been told only that the airliner was delayed.

"Just now I was told the airplane was missing. I can't believe it. I don't know what to say. I just feel terrible," she said.

The Taipei-Mauritius route is about 8,000-kilometres, the longest flown by South African Airways.

South Africa's worst air disaster before the present one occurred on April 20, 1988, when a Boeing 707 crashed in Windhoek, Namibia (South West Africa), killing 122 people. There were six survivors.

Bangladesh police fire blanks at curfew violators

DHAKA (R) — Police said they fired warning shots to break up groups of curfew violators on Saturday after President Hossain Mohammad Ershad declared a state of emergency on Friday night.

Police said some opposition activists tried to start small marches on the outskirts of Bangladesh's capital to protest against Gen. Ershad's new tough measures. But they all fled after police fired blank shots.

Opposition leaders told Reuters by telephone police charged into a separate group of protesters in the old Dhaka area with long bamboo sticks to disperse another march during curfew hours.

One opposition leader, Mohammad Abdul Jalil, said their campaign against Gen. Ershad would continue despite the curfew and the emergency.

A proclamation carried by state radio and television on Friday night banned all rallies and processions and suspended fundamental rights.

The government placed five key cities under curfew to head off protests against the new powers, but authorities appeared to enforce the order rather loosely.

Police did not challenge the hundreds of people who walked to their offices in the morning, although they checked identity papers in some cases, witnesses said.

Cycle-rickshaws plied the streets in the thickly-populated old city areas, but most of the capital appeared deserted.

Police reported that they took some political leaders into custody after the emergency came into force but said that many more had gone into hiding.

The opposition said Gen. Ershad's action would not hamper its campaign aimed at forcing

the former army general who has ruled Bangladesh since March 1982.

According to Gen. Ershad's decree, "the president assumed emergency powers because he felt the country's internal security was threatened and economic life endangered."

Eleven people, including two policemen, were killed in bomb blasts and police gunfire during general strikes lasting a total of 192 hours.

A government minister said Bangladesh had lost \$50 million in production and exports each day of the strikes.

A separate order issued by the Interior Ministry barred any direct or indirect criticism of the emergency rule and said newspapers must not publish any news or comment prohibited by the government.

It also banned strikes and lockouts in mills and factories for two months and prohibited all rallies and marches.

Gen. Ershad apparently declared the emergency to forestall another 72-hour general strike due to start from Sunday.

His proclamation said a 30-hour curfew had been imposed in Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna, Narayanganj and Rajshahi towns from Friday midnight.

Police said they had arrested a number of opposition leaders since the emergency started.

Among the arrested were Mirza Golam Hafiz, a former speaker of parliament, and Zillur Rahman, an opposition legislator.

The government imposed a news ban on Saturday.

"The law of the land requires that your reporting should be one-sided," Information Minister Anwar Zahid told a news briefing.

News reports "cannot be balanced," he said.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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SMALL PRECAUTION, LARGE GAIN

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♦ J 5 4
♦ A 7 5 4
♦ A 7 5
♦ 8 6 4

WEST
♦ 9 8
7 K 6 2
♦ J 9 8 6
♦ Q 9 3

SOUTH
♦ A K Q 10 7
♦ 9
♦ K Q 4 2
♦ A K 2

The bidding:
South West North East
2 ♦ Pass 3 NT Pass
3 ♦ Pass 4 ♦ Pass
4 NT Pass 5 ♦ Pass
5 NT Pass 6 ♦ Pass
6 ♦ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Nine of ♦

There is a sound principle of card play that is often observed more in the breach. It is: Whenever possible, make at least one of the opponents commit himself before you have to play a key card. Here's how it works.

South's bid of five no trump did more than ask for kings. The common theme is that if a defender ruffs, he wastes his trump on air."

U.K., Spain fail to agree on use of Gibraltar airport

MADRID (R) — Spain and Britain, resuming negotiations on Saturday, have failed in a first round of talks to agree on joint use of Gibraltar airport and unblock West European plans for cheaper air fares.

"I'd rather have no agreement than a bad agreement," Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernández Ordóñez told reporters after three hours of talks on Friday with British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe.

British officials said although talks on the complex dispute would resume later there was still substantial disagreement to settle before Howe flies home.

Ortega calls for continued defence despite peace efforts

MANAGUA (R) — Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega has urged continued military defence of the Sandinista revolution while his government pursued peace under a regional agreement for ending Central America's conflicts.

"We want peace, but it doesn't depend only on us," Mr. Ortega told several thousand troops in a rally in a Managua square.

"There are those who are working to make war," Mr. Ortega said in a reference to the Reagan administration, seen by Nicaragua as the main obstacle to peace because of its support for the anti-government contra rebels.

"So don't let it pass through anyone's mind, even for an instant, to lay down their arms.

Giant waves kill 581 in Philippines

BITANO, Philippines (R) — Giant waves triggered by typhoon Nina killed at least 581 people in the central Philippines, government and military officials said on Saturday.

Five hundred of the dead were from Sorsogon province, where tidal waves smashed into coastal villages on Wednesday night, provincial Governor Raul Lee told reporters.

"When the tidal wave hit, the villagers scampered out of their houses. Some drowned, others were pinned down among the debris," Delta Lato, an official said in Bitano village.

Nina, the worst typhoon to hit the country in three years, made more than 100,000 people homeless and caused property and crop damage estimated at \$12.3 million.

President Corazon Aquino has declared 11 provinces in Luzon Island calamity zones and ordered emergency rehabilitation.

"There is going to be a lot of hunger and illness because water is polluted. There is always a danger of all kinds of epidemic breaking out," Social Welfare Secretary Mita Pardo de Taverna told villagers in Sorsogon, the worst-hit province.

Three days after the storm struck, villagers were still searching bodies of missing relatives.

France arrests most wanted rebel suspect

LYON, France (R) — A left-wing guerrilla suspect described by police as the most wanted man in France was arrested early on Saturday after a shootout in this southern French City.

Police sources said Max Freret, believed to be the explosives expert of the Action Directe guerrilla group, was picked up near a Lyon railway station.

Freret opened fire on police and wounded at least one officer before being arrested, police said.

Freret was the last important Action Directe suspect still at large. Four other suspected leaders of the extreme left-wing organisation were arrested in February during a police raid on a remote farmhouse in the Loire Valley.

Assailants block shipment of ballots for Haitian elections

PORT-AU-PRINCE (R) — A shipment of ballots for Haiti's first free elections in 30 years was blocked by unidentified assailants and Haitians reported other election-related attacks and registration irregularities.

A truck carrying ballot papers to Haiti's third city, Gonaïves, was blocked by unidentified assailants. Provisional Electoral Council (CEP) treasurer Alain Roncourt said. He had no further details.

He said 90 per cent of the ballots had gone out for the elections on Sunday but officials conceded they were having problems in organising the vote in Haiti, where pre-election violence had left more than a dozen people dead.

"We have many technical difficulties," said the president of the CEP, Ernst Mirville.

The cities of Gonaïves and Hinche and some rural areas have not yet received ballot papers, officials of the independent nine-man CEP told a news conference.

Citizens have called local radio

Nkomo condemns killing of white missionaries

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — Opposition leader Joshua Nkomo on Saturday condemned the massacre of 16 white missionaries and their children, allegedly by armed rebels who fought for him in Zimbabwe's independence war.

"This type of action could only have been carried out by the enemies of our people and our country," he said in a message from London to the Chronicle newspaper in the Matabeleland provincial capital of Bulawayo.

"The Herald newspaper, published in Harare by the state-controlled Mass Media Trust, said in an editorial that while Pretoria's white dominated government retains its policy of apartheid or racial separation, "such dastardly and bloody killings will continue to claim victims among people of all races" in the region.

"This week's killings are aimed at demonstrating that the government cannot protect the white community," the editorial said.

Home Affairs Minister Enos Nkala on Saturday visited the two farms, a Christian commune called Community For Reconciliation, where the victims, including seven women and five children, were axed to death before the gunmen set fire to their homes.

COLUMNS 7&8

Sierra Leone in darkest hour, literally

FREETOWN (R) — Two years after General Joseph Momoh took over as president, the West African state of Sierra Leone is going through its darkest hour — literally. In the past four months the city's half million population has had electricity on average for only 20 hours per month while some districts have had no electricity for six months. Only the candle makers are happy. The government has spent millions of dollars maintaining ageing generators, which Sierra Leoneans hope may be repaired in the next few weeks thanks to a \$1.3-million grant from West Germany, which has also promised to send experts. The once pleasant seaside city, built on a series of lush hills and made famous by novelist Graham Greene in the Heart of the Matter, has been plunged into the heart of darkness, as one diplomat put it. A shortage of petrol for tanker lorries has led to rationing of drinking water. Industry is grinding to a halt and anger and frustration are evident in all sectors of society. "We live in a very sick country," the owner of a deserted restaurant said. He said the former British colony's economic slide began when it played host to an Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit in 1980. Then-President Siaka Stevens spent \$200 million on lavish installations including two luxury hotels, 60 villas for heads of state and, ironically, street lighting.

Victorian painting breaks 2 records

LONDON (AP) — A picture by Dante Gabriel Rossetti called Proserpine was sold in London for £1.43 million (\$2.58 million), breaking world records for the work of the pre-Raphaelite artist and for any Victorian painter. "We expected a top price of around £600,000 (about \$1 million)," said William Hanham, spokesman for auctioneers Christie's, after the picture was bought by London dealer Christopher Gibbs against strong bidding from other British dealers in Victorian paintings. The previous record for a Rossetti was \$382,950 (then £185,000) in New York in 1981 for another mythological portrait, and for any Victorian artist, \$1,265,000 (then £983,000) in New York in 1985 for a Harem scene by Frederick Lewis. "Taste has changed so much that in the 1920s, it was difficult even to give such paintings away," Hanham said. The new record painting depicts Jane Morris, wife of artist-craftsman William Morris, as the Roman mythical figure carried off to Hades to be the bride of Pluto. She could not escape because she had eaten a pomegranate seed there. The picture was sold by Carol Spiers, who received it in bequest from Manchester artist L.S. Lowry, who died in 1976. Rossetti, who died in 1882, belonged briefly to a group of artists who called themselves the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood and painted in fine detail subjects they considered serious and symbolic.

Contents of Mona Lisa villa sold

FLORENCE, Italy (AP) — Sales of Renaissance and 18th-century artworks from a villa where Leonardo Da Vinci's Mona Lisa is believed to have lived sold for some 1 billion lire (\$800,000) at an auction. Italian news agencies reported. The faintly smiling woman in the "Mona Lisa" painting, which now hangs in the Louvre in Paris, is believed to have been a member of the Gherardini family, former owners of the Villa Vignamaggio. Artworks from the villa sold at the Pitti auction house in Florence included depictions of the Madonna by Renaissance painters Michele Di Ridolfo Gherardino and Domenico Di Pace, four 18th century oil paintings and a pair of 18th century bronze angels. Centuries after the villa passed from the Gherardini family, it became the property of writer Bino Samminiatelli, who died in 1984. His heirs put the artworks and furnishings up for sale.

Authenticity of 8 Rembrandts questioned

NEW YORK (AP) — A Rembrandt research project is questioning the authenticity of eight paintings in Britain attributed to the artist, sharply lowering their value, the December issue of Artnews magazine reports. The works cited by the authoritative Rembrandt research effort include Landscape With Coach in the Wallace Collection and seven works in the National Gallery's Rembrandt section. "The committee is giving us a much leaner Rembrandt than we have had in the past. The number of paintings it will accept as his is expected to total 350, half the number one scholar attributed to him early this century," said the writer of the Artnews story, the magazine's editor-at-large Sylvia Hochfield.

"The people I feel sorry for are those English and American families, a large part of whose family fortunes are invested in a Rembrandt which is going to turn out to be somebody else," John Ingamells, director of the Wallace Collection, said in the Artnews statement. The statement noted that Rembrandt shared a studio in his early working years with another painter and that the two worked so closely together that collectors at the time described certain works as being by either painter. One work that may suffer shortly because of the panel's inquiries is Portrait of a Bearded Man Standing in an Archway, which is about to come to auction at Sotheby's. Because of the committee's findings, the magazine said, the work will be catalogued there as "attributed to Rembrandt" rather than as a Rembrandt. Its estimated value is now \$800,000 to \$1.2 million. If the work had passed muster, it would have had a conservative value of \$4 to \$6 million.

12% of Kinshasa exposed to AIDS

KINSHASA, Zaire (AP) — A new study said 12 per cent of Kinshasa's 3.5 million people have been exposed to the AIDS virus. Zaire's health minister reported. Ngandu Kabeya told a meeting of public health officials, the study also showed that 5 per cent of the population of Lubumbashi, Kolwezi, and other rural areas of Shaba province in the south eastern part of the country had tested sero-positive. He did not say who conducted the survey, when it took place, or how many people were tested. An earlier survey of 2,400 people in the capital indicated that 6.3 per cent of the city's population had been exposed to the AIDS virus. A sero-positive test result shows only that a person has been exposed to the virus, not that they have developed an active case of the disease. Zaire's National AIDS Committee has registered 2,000 confirmed cases since the disease was first diagnosed in the country in 1983.

Religious challenge to suttee ban barred

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — The high court in the western Indian state of Rajasthan has ruled that the state's new ordinance banning widow burning could not be challenged on religious grounds. The United News of India (UNI) said the two-judge panel found there was "no religious sanction" for the Hindu practice of "suttee" and rejected a petition challenging the law. The court has not yet decided, however, whether to admit a petition challenging the ordinance on constitutional grounds, the news agency said. The ordinance was enacted on Oct. 1 following a public outcry over the death of an 18-year-old widow in September. Roop Kanwar committed suttee by burning herself to death on Sept. 4 on her husband's funeral pyre in Rajasthan's Deorala village. The practice, though banned by federal law, occurs from time to time in remote villages. Adherents of the custom have tried to collect funds and build a shrine in Deorala glorifying the death. There also have been a series of rallies and demonstrations by pro-suttee groups in Rajasthan and the capital, New Delhi. Under the new ordinance, a person who provokes a widow to commit suttee may face capital punishment or life imprisonment and a fine. Punishment for efforts to glorify such a death would be up to seven years imprisonment. A federal law with similar provisions is under study.

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